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Nkrumah Calls

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U.S. Archenemy of Africa

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By Donald H. Louchheim
Washington Post Foreign Service

LAGOS, Nigeria — With knuckles, elbows and knees, Ghana's President Kwame Nkrumah has unloosed a free-swinging attack on the United States as the archenemy of Africa.

Nkrumah's new book, "Neocolonialism, the Last Stage of Imperialism," blames the Central Intelligence Agency for virtually every setback in the underdeveloped or "socialist"

world during the past decade. It denounces the Peace Corps and the U.S. Information Agency as CIA's most overworked tools in Africa. It calls Western aid programs, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund "Neocolonialist traps" to loot Africa or retard its development.

Behind the whole lurid conspiracy, Nkrumah finds American big business monopolies and their Western European satellites, bent on plundering the fabulous wealth of Africa.

The book was put on sale for the first time in Accra last week, timed to coincide with the annual summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity in the Ghanaian capital.

On the Peace Corps, Nkrumah says that "Acts of subversion or prejudice have led to incidents throughout African, Middle Eastern and Asian countries. He links it to the CIA through its director, Sargent Shriver, "a millionaire who made his pile in land speculation in Chicago."

He says Shriver was a confidant and coworker of Allen Dulles in the CIA. It is for USIA, however, that Nkrumah reserves his sharpest criticism. Among the activities he attributes to the Agency are:

Recruiting informers from government offices; collecting secret information with special reference to defense and economy; bribing public figures; financing, directing and often supplying with arms all antineutralist forces in the developing countries.

The Ghanaian President also lists the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and Jehovah's Witnesses as agents of imperialist subversion.

On Western aid programs, Nkrumah says they are merely "another means of exploitation." The World Bank and the IMF, which recently turned down a Ghanaian request for assistance, are denounced for imposing "various offensive conditions" such as requesting information about the applicant's economy and requiring some supervision over the use of loans.

[The Peace Corps currently has 98 teachers and 14 geologists in Ghana and expects the usual Ghanaian request this month for volunteers to arrive next September. Fifty of the teachers and the 14 geologists arrived last September.

[The U.S. Information Agency, which has a budget of \$174.6 million for the current fiscal year, including foreign currencies owned by the U.S. Government, has budgeted \$4.5 million

for Africa and \$139,483 to be spent in Ghana, where it has four American employees.

[The U.S. Government has authorized loans of \$37 million to Ghana for the Volta Dam hydroelectric project and \$110 million for the related Valco aluminum smelter. The World Bank has lent \$47 million for the Volta Dam. U.S. private investment in the aluminum smelter is \$54 million. The Ghana government has put up \$98 million for the Volta Dam.]

"Neocolonialism" is Nkrumah's fourth book since he led his country to independence in 1957. Almost 200 of its 259 pages are devoted to a detailed study of the names and interlocking interests behind the giant mining and development companies operating in Africa. Declaring that imperialism has a tighter grasp over Africa's resources than it did before independence, Nkrumah renews his appeal for a single union government on the continent as the only way to achieve true independence.

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